

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-02 PM-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /045 W  
----- 086313

R 031000Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2283  
INFO JCS WASH DC  
/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 5595

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SEATO, TH  
SUBJ: SEATO SEATEX-53 EXERCISE

REF: JCS 280318Z FEB 75

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN REFERENCE MESSAGE U.S. MILADREP  
INFORMED SEATO THAT USG PREFERRED AT-SEA PORTION OF  
SEATEX-53 BE HELD IN THE LESS RESTRICTIVE WATERS OF THE  
SOUTH CHINA SEA. SEATO PLANNERS ACKNOWLEDGED THIS ASPECT  
BUT CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR THE GULF OF THAILAND FOR THE  
FOLLOWING REASONS: (1) SEATO WISHES TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE  
BETWEEN THE TWO REGIONAL MEMBERS BY ALTERNATING NAVAL  
EXERCISES BETWEEN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THE GULF OF  
THAILAND; (2) THE SHALLOWER WATERS OF THE GULF OF THAILAND  
ARE NOT NECESSARILY RESTRICTIVE FOR SEA SURVEILLANCE AS  
THEY WOULD BE FOR ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE OPERATIONS; AND,  
(3) THE USG IS THE ONLY MEMBER WHO HAS SUGGESTED RELOCATION  
OF SEATEX-53. ALSO, IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT ELEMENTS  
OF U.S. SEVENTH FLEET CONDUCT FREQUENT BILATERAL NAVAL  
EXERCISES TO INCLUDE ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE (SEASIAM SERIES)  
WITH ROYAL THAI NAVY IN THE GULF OF THAILAND.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT SEATO HAS A VALID POINT VIS-A-VIS THE  
SCHEDULING OF THESE NAVAL EXERCISES BETWEEN THE REGIONAL  
MEMBERS AND THAT THE USG SHOULD ACQUIESCE IN THE LOCATION  
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OF AT-SEA PORTION TO THE GULF OF THAILAND.

MASTERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EXERCISES, SEATEL 53  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D750116-0146  
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**To:** STATE  
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